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TS 196639

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12 May 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI Briefing of the CIA Subcommittee of the House
Appropriations Committee - 11 May 1970

1. On 11 May 1970, the Director appeared before the CIA Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. The meeting lasted from 1415 until 1710 hours. A technical sweep of the room, HB-18 in the Capitol, was conducted and the room was kept under technical monitoring throughout. Discussions included SI and TKH material. Highlights of the session are summarized below. No transcript was taken.

2. Present from the Subcommittee were:

George H. Mahon (D., Tex.), Chairman
George W. Andrews (D., Ala.)
Frank T. Bow (R., Ohio)
William E. Minshall (R., Ohio)

3. Present from the Subcommittee staff was:

S. Ralph Preston, Staff Assistant

4. Accompanying the Director were:

Lawrence K. White, Ex/Dir-Compt
Carl Duckett, DDS&T
John Clarke, D/OPPB
George Carver, SAVA
 OCI
John M. Maury, Legislative Counsel

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5. The Chairman opened by expressing an interest in the Cambodian situation, the Middle East, and the Agency budget.

6. Representative Bow then raised the matter of what he referred to as the "credibility gap" resulting from differences between CIA and the Pentagon regarding the importance of the port of Sihanoukville in meeting Communist logistical requirements in Cambodia. It was stated that the military had claimed from the outset that Sihanoukville was a major factor in this regard, and that the Agency had tended to discount the importance of Sihanoukville. According to Mr. Bow, recent Pentagon witnesses have claimed the Agency has now admitted its error and agreed with the Pentagon.

7. The Director summarized the history of problems within the community over the Sihanoukville question, and Mr. Carver provided additional details, pointing out that we have known since 1966 that a good deal of military equipment was coming into Sihanoukville by sea, but this was nominally consigned to the Cambodian armed forces and the real problem was how much of this was redirected secretly to the Communists.

8. The ensuing discussion was roughly as follows:

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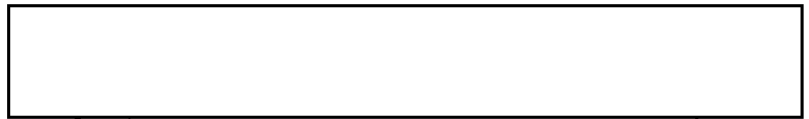
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(The Director wants all of the above handled orally: (a) and (b) by Messrs. Carver  and (c) by Mr. Cord Meyer.)

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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